

and Afghanis—are working hard to promote democracy and freedom in the heart of the Middle East. We salute them.

Governments that were once sworn enemies of the United States are now sworn enemies of the terrorists they once harbored and people who feared their government are now active participants in its transformation. It is huge progress.

The Defense authorization bill before us provides our soldiers with the resources and the training, the technology, equipment, and the authorities they need to win this global war on terror. From cutting-edge technologies to personnel protection systems, the authorization bill keeps our military system strong so our men and women in uniform can keep America safe.

I look forward to passage of the Defense authorization bill tomorrow. The Senate has no higher duty than to protect and defend our fellow citizens.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed as in morning business for up to 10 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

JULIE DAMMANN

Mr. BOND. Mr. President it is both with deep gratitude and regret that I announce to my colleagues the liberation of my Chief of Staff, Julie Dammann, from the public sector.

Julie has been with me since I came to town in 1987 and has been a perfectly reliable source of sound judgment, energy, and friendship.

Within any successful enterprise, there is the heart of the operation. In the case of Julie, she has been the heart, the legs, the mind, the backbone, and the can-do spirit of my staff.

In addition to her professional service, she always subsumed her interests to mine, to the Senate, to the public interest, and most important, to our country. For the Nation, she has been a loyal public servant of the first order and a true patriot.

For me, from the time she first marched into my office, she has been my friend. Remarkably, from that first day to the present, through 19 Congressional sessions, 3 reelections, marriage, motherhood, and her bravely defiant and prevailing fight against cancer, she has never stopped. Chemotherapy met its match. She never rested, and she never let me rest either. F. Scott Fitzgerald once said that "action is character." In that case, Julie is character. Some who have dealt with her would say "character" is entirely appropriate.

Among her many unique talents is what I have learned is referred to as multitasking. At any given time, she can be talking with me, listening to C-SPAN, Blackberrying instructions to

staff, while checking out statistics of the previous Vikings game and evaluating the potential draft picks 9 months in advance. When she is talking, we all listen as fast as we can, but it can be very hard to keep up.

Our great country sends a lot of talent and integrity to Washington to staff our congressional offices and Julie is as good as I have seen.

Few understand the high-profile issues that are in the papers every day. Julie comprehends those "big" issues, but is extraordinary with the issues that are low on visibility and high on complexity. She has handled issues including farm credit, patent protection, voting reform, postal reform, highway transportation funding formulas, and California's clean air enforcement regulations, just to mention a few. Her intellectual dexterity has earned her extraordinary respect among her colleagues who have worked with her; and particularly those who have worked against her.

Julie began her work for the Senate in 1979, as an intern with Senator Rudy Boschwitz, eventually coming to Washington in 1982 as one of his legislative assistants—where one of her first major assignments was the Highway bill.

In 1987, after joining my staff as Legislative Director, she met Rolf Dammann at the National Republican Senatorial Committee who was apparently interested in more than her highly-regarded agricultural acumen. Rolfs new found interest in Budget and appropriations issues eventually paid off and they were married—after the 1988 election, of course. They both enjoy politics, history, golf, and German beer. As legendary Green Bay Packers coach once said, "On third and long, I'll take the beer drinkers to milk drinkers any day." But more on the legendary Packers later.

Rolf and Julie are the proud parents of two daughters, Monika who is now 10, and Paula 8.

In 1997, Julie became my Chief of Staff.

During consideration of the Fiscal Year 1988 VA/HUD appropriations bill, we were able to expedite completion of the bill by successfully appealing to Senators that Julie needed to leave the floor to have her second daughter who was due to arrive that very day. Betting on the Senate internally to be family-friendly was a bold strategy Julie suggested, but it worked.

I noted to the Senate that:

I want to make a special mention of my chief of staff, Julie Dammann, whose second child was due today and she stayed with us throughout all the proceedings and wanted to see the VA-HUD bill delivered first. She has been an invaluable help in all legislative activities and helped us shepherd this through. So, a very special thank you, and best wishes to Julie, to Rolf and their other daughter, Monika. Again, I express my appreciation.

Senator MIKULSKI echoed the comments saying:

I hope that she can go home, rest easy, put her feet up and we are looking forward to

being the proud Godparents of Bond-Mikulski. Maybe we will name something after her in conference.

In any event, the bill passed, and Paula arrived.

Julie was born in Roseville, MN and graduated from the University of Minnesota while also becoming a diehard Gopher, Vikings and Twins fan. For those indiscretions, she was forced to undertake an amnesty program and extensive, but unsuccessful, Bond-office Missouri rehabilitation program.

The fact that she was able to stay in my employ after the Twins-Cardinals World Series of 1987 an epic tragedy which occurred in the horrible chamber the twins call a baseball stadium, speaks volumes to her otherwise high value.

In fact, the only successful indoctrination resulted in the staff being forced to root against the arch-rival Green Bay Packers. Even one of my leatherneck Marines on staff, a Packer fan, minds his football manners around Julie.

Rolfs father, a native of Germany, bought Julie a 2-foot-tall Packers NFL action figure for Christmas one year as a joke—it sat in the garage unopened for over a year until it was re-gifted to a friend in Germany. Julie believes that the opposition should be given little room to breath and that U.S. citizenship is a privilege which should not be abused.

But while competitive, she always respected the process and the people on both sides working diligently to pursue the agenda they were elected or hired to pursue.

Through all the pressures, high expectations, and fast city life, I think that Julie may be proudest of her terrific family and, proudest that to this day, she quite obviously remains a small town Minnesota gal—hard work, loyalty, integrity, optimism, enthusiasm, and courage, which can often be misinterpreted in Julie's case as stubbornness.

Her parents, the late Dr. Paul Hasbargen and Mrs. Ervina Hasbargen made Washington a better place by producing Julie and lending her to the Federal Government.

For me, having Julie has been one of my greatest blessings in public life. In this case, it is unlike losing one member of the family because I am simultaneously losing a colleague, a trusted advisor, and, yes, at times a mother. We know that she will be very successful in the private sector, with her intelligence, experience and drive.

Julie, with the deepest affection, we have been honored to be near you for so many years. We will miss you. We wish you and your family the very best.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for 10 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRADE ISSUES

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I was just asked by a news reporter about the President's trip to Asia. The President is now going to Japan, Korea, and China and will be talking, presumably, about a wide range of issues, including trade. My hope certainly is that he will talk about trade.

Last month, we had a trade deficit of \$66 billion—in 1 month—one-third of it from China. When the President goes to China, he could visit a lot of American jobs because the jobs that used to be here in America exist now in China—jobs that made bicycles, Radio Flyer's Little Red Wagon, Tony Lama boots. The jobs that used to make a wide range of products now exist in China. An American President—any American President—visiting China could visit a lot of American jobs. They are not the same kind of jobs that existed in America because in America, in most cases, those jobs were performed by employees who made a decent wage and who had benefits. No longer, in most cases. Those jobs in China are being performed by people who are being paid a small amount of money and no benefits.

By the way, if they complain about the working conditions, they will be either fired or put in prison.

As the President goes to China in the shadow of last month's devastating announcement of a \$66 billion monthly trade deficit, one-third of it coming from China, what should the President do? It seems to me the President, with respect to China, Japan, and Korea—all three of those countries—should begin to get tough and exhibit on the part of this country a backbone that says to countries with whom we do business, we expect and demand and deserve fair trade.

Fair trade means it is mutually beneficial. It is not fair, and it is not mutually beneficial when last month—when the last month for which we had reporting—we bought one dollar's worth of goods from China, and for every dollar's worth of goods from China we sold them 10 cents' worth. A dollar and 10 cents—that is not fair trade. With a \$66 billion trade deficit, with nearly 20 percent of it coming from the country of China, we ought to expect something substantially different.

The Commerce Department announced that the trade deficit that shattered all records was in the month of September. Our country had a trade deficit of \$66 billion.

This is what it looks like. Our country is choking in red ink. Behind this

red are American jobs leaving for China. Companies know they can simply get rid of their American workers and save a lot of money by hiring people in Third World countries—in this case, China—and they can presumably boost their profits believing, apparently, that people are like wrenches and pliers. You just get rid of them when you are done with them and find something less expensive. Go and hire that less expensive commodity—in this case “commoditizing” labor.

This is what our trade deficit looks like with China. We have a \$220 billion annual deficit with China. You can see what has happened. We are sinking into a deep abyss with respect to the trade deficit with China.

One of the reasons for the trade deficit is piracy and counterfeiting. That is just one of the reasons.

Let me describe something interesting. This happens to be the logo for the 2008 Chinese Olympics. It says: Beijing 2008. It is a great-looking logo. It actually belongs to the Chinese. The Chinese know how valuable a logo like this is because in Greece they had the logo for the Greek Olympics, and I am told they raised something over \$850 million with this logo. So the Chinese know.

First of all, this logo belongs to them. Secondly, it is very valuable. And some people on the streets of China decided they were going to counterfeit this logo. They decided, We are going to pirate this logo. They started selling mugs, coffee mugs, banners, all kinds of things with the official Chinese logo on it for the 2008 Olympics.

Guess what. The Chinese Government can, in fact, control piracy and counterfeiting. They demonstrated it.

The President, if he gets out of the car and walks down the street in Beijing, will not find someone selling counterfeit goods. They are gone. They are in prison. They are off the streets. The Chinese Government shut them down, just like that, in an instant.

So when it is their money that is at stake, they understand how to stop piracy and counterfeiting. They do it.

Two-thirds of all counterfeit and pirated goods coming into this country come from China. Does China lift a finger to stop it? Not a finger; don't care; doesn't matter to them. It mattered when it was goring their ox, when they were about ready to lose money. Then it mattered.

So the question is, What do we do about this? I could put up a chart that shows Japan, a \$60 billion to \$70 billion a year—every single year—trade deficit.

I could put up a chart that shows Korea and talk about my favorite subject with Korea: that little old Dodge pickup truck called the Dodge Dakota. I kind of like the name because it is named after my State—Dakota. It is so wonderful they named a pickup truck after it.

At a time when 700,000 vehicles come into this country over the high seas

from Korea to be sold to the American consumers, we are able to sell, if we are lucky, about 3,800 to 3,900 vehicles in Korea. So 700,000 this way, and 3,800 to 3,900 going to Korea.

Why is that? The Koreans don't want American cars in Korea, and 99 percent of the vehicles on the roads in Korea are Korean-made vehicles. That is what the Korean Government wants.

The Dodge Dakota folks thought they would have a niche in Korea selling Dodge Dakota pickup trucks. For the first 3 or 4 months they started selling some. All of a sudden, the Korean Government shut them down just like that. With Japan, with Korea, and with China, the fact is, in all of these cases, governments take action to complete trade arrangements with us that are not mutually beneficial—trade arrangements that hurt us, ship our jobs overseas and help them.

This trip by the President is very important. The question is, Will this country stand up for its own economic interests? There is no evidence in the past that it will.

My colleague, Senator GRAHAM, and I have offered several pieces of legislation on these very issues. But there is a giant yawn on the part of the U.S. Congress, not very interested; giant yawn at the White House, not very interested.

Why is that? It is because most of these policies—I am talking about policies that affect the jobs of our citizens, policies that affect this country's economy, and whether we grow or not, whether people have a good job that pays well with benefits—are viewed through the lens of soft-headed foreign policy and not hard-nosed economic policy.

That is the problem. You have to run all these things by the U.S. State Department to see if we could begin to be a little bit tough and take some action, maybe, with respect to some unfair trade practices of the Chinese. Oh, no. We are worried about offending the Chinese. Don't do it.

They are engaged in managed trade and hard-nosed economic issues, and we are engaged in soft-headed foreign policy.

Mr. GRAHAM. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. DORGAN. I would be happy to yield.

Mr. GRAHAM. I don't know if anyone has done an analysis of our trade deficit. What percentage does the Senator believe is directly attributable to unfair trade practices on behalf of the Chinese? It is one thing to be outworked. If people work harder than you do and are smarter than you are, shame on you. But I believe, as the Senator does, that a lot of the market share that we are losing in the trade deficit explosion has to do with Chinese Government policy when it comes to trade behavior rather than just simply outworking the American worker.

What is the Senator's view on that?

Mr. DORGAN. I don't have a numeric answer to that. But I think it is self-